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Message Text

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62
ACTION PPTE-00

INFO OCT-01 SCA-01 ISO-00 /002 W
---------- 092892
R 230955Z FEB 76
FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5720
INFO AMCONSUL ISFAHAN POUCH
AMCONSUL SHIRAZ POUCH
AMCONSUL TABRIZ POUCH

UNCLAS TEHRAN 1853

E.O.11652: N/A
TAGS: CPAS, IR
SUBJ: AUTHORIZATION TO ISSUE PASSPORTS

REF: STATE 020788#AND PREVIOUS

1. EMB ASSUMES DEPT INTENDED REFERENCE TO READ 24133, WHICH LISTS TABRIZ AS A POST NOT QUALIFIED TO ISSUE PPTS. THERE IS NO 242.33 IN EMB FAMS.

2. TABRIZ AND TEHRAN ADMIT ERROR IN NOT FORMALLY REQUESTING AUTHORITY FOR TABRIZ TO ISSUE PASSPORTS, HOWEVER 75 TABRIZ 52 DATED SEPT. 17, 1975 DID INFORM DEPT OF INTENT TO BEGIN ISSUANCE OF PASSPORTS. AN ELECTRIC PASSPORT WAS ORDERED BY TEHRAN SPECIFICALLY FOR TABRIZ USE ON MAY 13, 1975, REQUISITION NO. 4430-530051, AND A LEGEND MACHINE WAS ALSO ORDERED. 75 TABRIZ 52 ALSO INFORMED DEPT OF TABRIZ PROJECTED NEED FOR BLANK PASSPORTS. NO REPLY TO 75 TABRIZ 52 WAS EVER RECEIVED. TABRIZ 0003 DRAFTED JAN. 7, 1976 REFERENCE 75 TABRIZ 52 AND INFORMED DEPT. THAT TABRIZ HAD NECESSARY EQUIPMENT AND HAD

BEGUN ISSUING PASSPORTS AS OF DEC. 7, 1975. A SUPPLY OF PASSPORTS (6) WAS OBTAINED FROM THE EMBASSY, AND A RECEIPT RETAINED IN THE FILES. TABRIZ 0003 LISTED THE POSSPORTS RECEIVED BY NUMBER. TABRIZ FULLY EQUIPPED TO STORE PASSPORTS AND RELATED MATERIALS IN VAULT ADEQUATE FOR STORAGE OF TOP SECRET MATERIAL.
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3. STATE 234514 TO ISFAHAN READ IN PART "POST IS AUTHORIZED TO COMMENCE ISSUING PASSPORTS AS SOON AS ALL NECESSARY EQUIPMENT IS ON HAND IN GOOD WORKING CONDITION PER 8 FAM 248.22 PROCE-DURES." ISFAHAN THEREFORE COMMENCED ISSUANCE AND REPORTED IN ISFAHAN 006 THAT IT WAS DOING SO. WHILE THE POST DID NOT SPECIFICALLY STATE THAT THE REQUIREMENTS OF FAM 248.22 HAD BEEN MET, IT ASSUMED THAT THE DEPT. WOULD INFER FROM THE FACT THAT IT HAD BEGUN ISSUING PASSPORTS THAT THESE REQUIREMENTS HAD BEEN MET. STATE 232272 TO SHIRAZ STATED: IN PARA 3: "IF SHIRAZ HAS ON HAND IN GOOD WORKING CONDITION ALL EQUIPMENT NECESSARY FOR PASSPORT ISSUANCE, POST HEREBY AUTHORIZED TO ISSUE SERVICE PASSPORTS." POST THEREFORE BEGAN ISSUANCE. POST COMPLIED WITH REQUEST TO REPORT ON PASSPORTS ON HAND AND NEEDS FOR 1976 IN SHIRAZ 02 WHICH LISTED BY NUMBER THOSE ON HAND ESTIMATED OF ISSUANCE PRIOR TO DEC. 31, AND THE NUMBER OF BICENTENNIAL PASSPORTS NEEDED.

4. 8 FAM 248.42 (D) STATES THAT WHEN PASSPORTS ARE RECEIVED TOGETHER WITH FORM DS-859A, RECEIPT FOR PASSPORT OFFICE, THE RECEIVING POST IS TO SIGN THE ORIGINAL AND RETURN IT TO THE PASSPORT OFFICE. THAT SECTION OF THE REGULATIONS DOES NOT SPECIFICALLY STATE THAT WHEN TRANSFERS ARE MADE FROM POST TO POST WITHOUT FORM DS-859A A RECEIPT SHOULD BE SENT TO THE DEPT. THE TRANSFERRING POST CONSIDERED ITSELF RESPONSIBLE TO THE DEPT. FOR ALL PASSPORTS RECEIVED, AND IN ALL CASES IN WHICH TRANSFERS WERE MADE, OBTAINED A RECEIPT FROM THE RECEIVING POST. FOR THE DEPT'S INFORMATION, PASSPORTS Z1266270 THROUGH 75 AND Z2520014 THROUGH 19 WERE TRANSFERRED FROM TEHRAN TO TABRIZ ON NOV. 16, 1975 AND JAN. 13, 1976 RESPECTIVELY, AND Z1817526 THROUGH 50 WERE SENT FROM TEHRAN TO ISFAHAN DEC. 4, 1975.

5. TABRIZ HAS ONE MAUAL PASSPORT AND WILL SOON RECEIVE ONE ELECTRIC PASSPORT TYPEWRITER WHICH HAS ARRIVED IN TEHRAN, BUT WHICH HAS NOT YET BEEN RECEIVED AT POST. POST ALSO HAS ONE LEGEND MACHINE, TWO CONSULATE SEALS, RIBBONS FOR MACHINES AND RELATED RUBBER STAMPS. SHIRAZ HAS ONE ROYAL PASSPORT TYPEWRITER, FPS 7158739, ONE BURROUGHS LEGEND MACHINE, P1762, ONE DESK MODEL IMPRESSION SEAL, TWO HAND SEALS, EXTRA RIBBONS FOR THE MACHINES AND APPROPRIATE RUBBER STAMPS.
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ISFAHAN HAS: A MANUAL PASSPORT TYPEWRITER, A NEW LEGEND MACHINE, AN IMPRESSION SEAL, RIBBONS, AND NECESSARY RUBBER STAMPS. TEHRAN'S STOCK CONSISTS OF TWO MANUAL PASSPORT TYPEWRITERS, ONE LEGEND MACHINE, ASSORTED RIBBONS AND RUBBER STAMPS AND EMBASSY SEALS USED FOR BOTH PASSPORTS AND NOTARIALS.
HELMS

NOTE BY OC/T: #AS RECEIVED.

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